

#### IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:  
a variable display meansdevice for variably displaying designs; and  
a front display meansdevice disposed in front of the variable display  
meansdevice, wherein the front display meansdevice includes a transparent  
liquid crystal display panel through which said variable display meansdevice is  
able to be seen, a light guiding plate for guiding light emitted from a light source  
to the entire of said liquid crystal display panel, and a diffusion means-sheet for  
diffusing the light guided by the light guiding plate to equalize the light which  
illuminates said liquid crystal display panel, and in said light guiding plate and  
diffusion-meanssheet, transparent areas for ensuring the visibility of the variable  
display of said variable display meansdevice are formed, wherein  
the transparent liquid crystal display panel, the diffusion sheet and the  
light guiding plate are arranged in a facially-opposed sequential manner such  
that the diffusion sheet is disposed between the transparent liquid crystal display  
panel and the light guiding plate and the light guiding plate is disposed between  
the diffusion sheet and the variable display device.

2. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to claim 1,  
wherein said variable display meansdevice is one or more rotatable reels each  
having a reel band thereon, on which said designs are drawn.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The reel-based gaming machine according~~  
to claim 1, wherein said gaming machine is a slot machine.

4. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein the  
diffusion sheet and the light guiding plate are in facial-surface-to-facial-surface  
contact with one another.

5. (New) A gaming machine comprising:

a plurality of reels, each which has a plurality of symbols; and  
a front display device disposed in front of the plurality of reels, the front display device including a transparent liquid crystal display panel through which the plurality of reels are able to be seen, a light guiding plate for guiding light emitted from a light source to the liquid crystal display panel, and a diffusion sheet for diffusing the light guided by the light guiding plate to equalize the light which illuminates the liquid crystal display panel,

wherein the diffusion sheet is provided with one or more transparent areas corresponding to the plurality of reels, the transparent liquid crystal display panel, the diffusion sheet and the light guiding plate are arranged in a facially-opposed sequential manner such that the diffusion sheet is disposed between the transparent liquid crystal display panel and the light guiding plate and the light guiding plate is disposed between the diffusion sheet and the plurality of reels.

6. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 5, wherein the front display device further includes a reflection plate for reflecting a light emitted from the light source on the light guiding plate to the liquid crystal display panel, the light guiding plate and the reflection plate are arranged in a facially-opposed sequential manner such that the reflection plate is disposed behind the light guiding plate.

7. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 6, wherein the reflection plate is provided with one or more windows corresponding to the plurality of reels.

8. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 6, wherein the diffusion sheet is in contact with the light guiding plate and the light guiding plate is in contact with the reflection plate.

9. (New) A gaming machine comprising:  
a plurality of reels, each which has a plurality of symbols; and

a front display device disposed in front of the plurality of reels, the front display device including, a transparent liquid crystal display panel through which the plurality of reels are able to be seen, a light guiding plate for guiding light emitted from a light source to the liquid crystal display panel, a diffusion sheet for diffusing the light guided by the light guiding plate to equalize the light which illuminates the liquid crystal display panel, and a reflection plate for reflecting a light emitted from the light source on the light guiding plate to the liquid crystal display panel,

wherein the reflection plate is provided with one or more transparent areas corresponding to the plurality of reels, the transparent liquid crystal display panel, the light guiding plate and the reflection plate are arranged in a facially-opposed sequential manner such that the light guiding plate is disposed between the transparent liquid crystal display panel and the reflection plate and the reflection plate is disposed between the light guiding plate and the plurality of reels.

10. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 9, wherein the light guiding plate is in contact with the reflection plate.